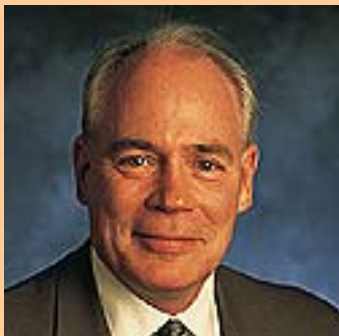




ProgressIndiana[®] Region 7

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Indiana Department of Commerce

Region 7 Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Shelby



**Message from Indiana
Department of Commerce
Executive Director
Tim Monger**

Since our last *Progress Indiana* update in May, we have welcomed 11 new businesses to the state that will bring 1,478 new jobs and \$525,524,933 in investment. We also conducted 670 business development outreach meetings with CEOs statewide (http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-06-29Reg8.pdf); unveiled new certified technology parks (http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-06-29Evansville.pdf); initiated a promotional program for Indiana companies; created an office solely for the advocacy of small businesses; hired a professional to take our state's telecommunications to the next level; made more than \$6.3 million available in grants for rural communities, and a hit a record high in first-quarter exports (http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-06-18Export.pdf).

These are just a few examples of results from our aggressive steps to move our state forward.

I encourage you to read more of our activity in each of our regions' newsletters by selecting an area of the state on the regional map. As with each issue, we will focus on events, announcements, and Commerce programs and activities across the state.

This issue, take note of our business development resources including tax credits, workforce development training initiatives, energy, tourism,

Message from Region 7 Director Scott Fulford

Welcome to the Region 7 bi-monthly newsletter.

Our staff approaches their jobs with a high level of enthusiasm and excitement about the role we play in the future of central Indiana. We are delighted that you are interested and are taking time to read this newsletter.

One of our goals is to create or enhance regional economic and community development partnerships. With our partners, we help empower companies, communities and citizens to act locally in order to compete globally.

We are working to fully utilize our business and community leaders, educators, government officials and organizations as physical and intellectual resources pulling together to keep Indiana economically prosperous and a great place to live. Additionally, we are working with visionary, capable and willing local leaders who understand how best to contribute, both collectively and individually to our efforts. It's a privilege to be able to work with these individuals and a pleasure to assist central Indiana companies.

It is our hope that the information included in our newsletter will be of great value to your business and our community!

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REGION 7 AT A GLANCE

Davis Welcomes ACES Power Marketing 35 High-Paying Jobs to Hamilton County

Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis joined state, local and company officials to announce that the Alliance for Cooperative Energy (ACES) Power

international trade activities and more by going to: <http://www.in.gov/doc/businesses/index.html>. Related business development programs are highlighted in our regional news sections.

We want this newsletter to be a resource for the growth and development of your company or community. If there is any information you would like to see in the newsletters, please send an e-mail to commercenewsletters@commerce.in.gov.

David Dorff named as head of the Office of Small Business Advocacy

FULL STORY:

<http://www.in.gov/serv/presscal?PF=gov&Clist=4&Elist=81379>

See related initiatives impacting small businesses including workforce development, health care expenses and regulatory relief at:

http://www.knownolimits.biz/ldoc/july_august/Workforce_training.pdf

http://www.knownolimits.biz/ldoc/july_august/Health_care.pdf

http://www.knownolimits.biz/ldoc/july_august/

[REGULATORY RELIEF .pdf](#)

New Grant Programs to Stimulate Economic Development

FULL STORY:

http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-06-30IRDC.pdf

Broadband Conference Slated for September

For more information, go to:

<http://www.in.gov/doc/highspeedcommunication/>

Christine Fulford named as high-speed communications director for the Indiana Department of Commerce

FULL STORY:

http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-07-08Fulford.pdf

Gov. Joe Kernan unveils "Buy Indiana" Web site

For more information on the program and to register, go to www.opportunityindiana.in.gov.

Microenterprise Partnership Program makes grants available to community organizations

For more information on the program, go to <http://www.iedc.org/>.

Marketing will establish a new corporate headquarters at Mayflower Business Park in Hamilton County.

FULL STORY:

http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-07-07ACES.pdf

Indiana Venture Center Shows Significant Growth

Since its inception just over six months ago, the Indiana Venture Center has grown significantly while continuing to reach out to all areas of Indiana. With the help of individuals and both private and public sector organizations throughout the state, the Indiana Venture Center has been able to connect with statewide entrepreneurs and begin to make an impact.

Over the last six months, the Center has received more than 100 business profiles, the forms that give insight into a prospective client's business and allows the Center to gauge the level of service that is required. From the business profiles that have been submitted, the Indiana Venture Center staff is assisting nearly 50 high-growth, high-potential companies with another 38 entrepreneurs or companies in the pipeline requesting assistance.

With expertise and statewide contacts the Indiana Venture Center is able to provide a variety of services to companies in all industries. Currently, the majority of the Center's clients are situated in the technology, life sciences or service sectors. The Center is also working with clients within the manufacturing, automotive and entertainment industries.

Whether it is helping our clients become a venture success or assisting them to grow and expand, the Indiana Venture Center is well equipped to provide a variety of services. The Center is providing all seven core services: business plan review and assistance; technology review and validation; business strategy review; management review; funding assistance for Indiana's high growth companies; internships for undergraduate and graduate students; and technology transfer assistance. The Center is also aiding companies in the search for suitable locations and executive talent along with tailoring services to fit each unique need.

The Indiana Venture Center strives to assist clients with the core issues of venture creation and drivers of business success thus, helping each organization build a solid foundation that will provide stability for future growth and expansion. The Center's goal is to create a better entrepreneurial community in Indiana.

Visit: <http://www.indianaventurecenter.org/>

Manufacturing Company Targets Indianapolis as the Site for its New Headquarters Operation

A small, advanced manufacturing company has relocated to Indianapolis and expects to create 50 new jobs over the next several years.

FULL STORY:

http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-06-03AMPG.pdf

Skills Enhancement Fund Provides Financial Assistance for Workforce Training

Indiana's Skills Enhancement Fund (SEF) is designed to provide financial assistance to existing, new and expanding businesses committed to training their workforce. Trainees must be Indiana residents. Companies can receive reimbursement - not to exceed \$200,000 - for retraining existing workers. Supplemental grant awards may be available for training new employees.

View more information on SEF at:
<http://www.in.gov/doc/skills2016/skills/>

Export Indiana Opened Doors to Overseas Business

Exporters had the opportunity to meet with the Indiana Foreign Trade Office (FTO) directors from Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Canada at Export Indiana 2004 July 14 at Butler University in Indianapolis. Attendees received briefings and market profiles on four different regions, participated in small group meetings with the FTO directors, networked with other exporters and international service providers, provided company literature and product samples, met with officials from the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and spoke with Indiana's agricultural trade specialist.

Business Resources

The Indiana Department of Commerce and allied agencies offer numerous resources for companies looking to develop their workforce, increase business leads and improve production efficiencies. Please select from the following business resources to help your company grow:

Resource Guides

How to start a business in Indiana
<http://www.in.gov/doc/businesses/StartBus.html>

Taxpayer Resources

<http://www.in.gov/dor>

Industry Reports

<http://www.in.gov/doc/businesses/TechAsst.html>

Facts and Figures of Doing Business in Indiana

<http://www.in.gov/doc/compare/index.html>

Grants and Incentives Programs

Business Development Grants

<http://web.bsu.edu/ieda/home.asp>

Incentives Programs

<http://www.in.gov/doc/businesses/incentives.html>

Energize Indiana Initiative

<http://www.in.gov/doc/goindiana/index.htm>

Business Development Organizations

Indiana Small Business Development Centers www.isbdc.org

Service Corps of Retired Executives www.scoreindiana.org

Rural Development and Agriculture www.in.gov/idfa

Indy Partnership www.indypartnership.com

Loans

Small Business Administration Loan Programs -

<http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov/financing/>

Specialty Programs

International Trade Includes resources on export assistance Directory of Indiana Exporters, Indiana Quarterly Export Report, foreign trade offices, Trade Show Assistance Program, Trade leads and international trade finance assistance.

<http://www.in.gov/doc/businesses/IntTrade.html>

Energy Efficiency Includes resources such as financial assistance. Policy, grants and promotional and trading programs.
<http://www.in.gov/doc/businesses/Energy.html>

Workforce Development Programs and Grants Includes resources to enhance skills of your employees and modernize your workforce. http://www.in.gov/doc/businesses/Ed_index.html

Congratulations to Award Winners in Region 7

Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP)

Nineteen Region 7 NAP applicants received a total of \$696,194.50 in tax credits. Those included: Prevail Inc. (Hamilton); Alternatives Inc., Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central IN,(Madison); Coburn Place Safe Haven, Dayspring Center Inc., Gennesaret Free Clinic, Gleaners Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Indianapolis, Indianapolis Senior Citizens' Center Inc., Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Mapleton-Fall Creek Development Corp., Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, Partners in Housing Development Corporation, Quest for Excellence Inc., Raphael Health Center, Saint Christopher Center Inc., Second Helpings Inc., Volunteers of America of Indiana Inc., Wheeler Mission Ministries (Marion). Read more:

http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/04-07-12NAP.pdf

Community Focus Fund Awardees in Region 7

Bargersville was awarded a \$500,000 grant for storm water improvements

Go to:

http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/2004CFF/Bargersville.pdf to read more about this award.

Ingalls was awarded a \$500,000 grant for a water and sewer project

Go to:

http://www.in.gov/doc/news/news_releases/PDFs/2004CFF/Ingalls.pdf to read more about this award.

Links to Business and Community Development Resources

The Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship is pleased to announce the "Opportunity for Indiana" Business Plan Competition. Go to:

<http://www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/opportunity/> for more information.

REGION 7 CALENDAR

July 28-Aug. 25, Small Business Administration/Bank One Business Information Center Training Schedule.

http://www.knownolimits.biz/idoc/july_august/Reg7Calitem7.23.04.pdf

July-Dec. 2004, Indianapolis Tech Business Calendar

<http://techvenue.com/cgi-bin/TechVenue.pl?CalendarName=Indianapolis>

Aug. 2004, Indiana Department of Revenue Tax Filing Deadlines by Industry <http://www.in.gov/dor/deadlines/aug04.html>

Aug. 4, U.S. Senator Evan Bayh Job Fair, Job Training & Business

Summit will be held at the Glendale Mall in Indianapolis starting at 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 10, Small Business Summit & Minority and Women Business Enterprise Summit. View the agenda at:
http://www.knownolimits.biz/idoc/july_august/LGsummitPlanforDay-External.pdf

Aug. 13, The Central Indiana Air Quality Advisory Group meeting, Indiana Government Center South, Conference Center Room B, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 10, The Central Indiana Air Quality Advisory Group meeting, Indiana Government Center South, Conference Center Room A, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 13, Broadband Conference at Ball State University. For more information, go to <http://www.in.gov/doc/highspeedcommunication/>

Sept. 14, 2nd annual 21st Century Transportation, Distribution & Logistics Summit at IUPUI.
<http://www.indianalogistics.com/summit/default.htm>

Sept. 15, SWIFT IV Conference will be held in Indianapolis. For more information, visit
www.sbaonline.sba.gov/sbir/indexsbir-sttr.html

Sept. 17, Quality of Place applications are due. Go to www.in.gov/tourism for more information.

Sept. 26-30, 2004 Indiana Association of Cities & Towns Annual Conference
http://www.citiesandtowns.org/content/about/calendar_DHT.htm

Oct. 8, The Central Indiana Air Quality Advisory Group meeting, Indiana Government Center South, Conference Center Room B, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Oct. 23-30, Council of Great Lakes Export Trade Mission
http://www.knownolimits.biz/idoc/july_august/region7_MissionFlyer.pdf

View more Region 7 calendar items at:
http://www.knownolimits.biz/idoc/july_august/Region7CalendarItem.pdf

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